

Applicant(s): Allan Scherr
Serial No.: 10/036,547
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E30-050CON2 (96-031CON2)

In the Claims

Please cancel claims 1 through 13 and 15 through 17 in favor of new claims 18 through 32 as follows:

Claims 1- 17 (canceled)

~~It data network comprising:~~

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18 (New). A data node at each of at least first and second sites in a data network, wherein at least two of the data nodes includes a cache management system, the cache management system at said data node comprising:

10 A) a cache memory device coupled to the data network, for storing at least two different cache memory management methods for controlling communications with other data nodes in the data network, and

15 B) a cache memory manager connected to said cache memory device for controlling transfers with other data nodes in response to one of the at least two different cache memory management methods in said cache memory device and wherein the cache memory management methods used at said data node and another data node on the data network are different.

20 19 (New). A data node as recited in claim 18 wherein said cache memory manager (at said data node) includes method

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selection means for selecting one of the cache memory management methods in said cache memory device for controlling communications network communications) at said data node.

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20 (New). A data node as recited in claim 19 wherein said cache memory manager (at said data node) includes monitoring means for monitoring operations at a respective node and said method selection means responds to said monitoring means.

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10 21 (New). A data node as recited in claim 19 wherein said cache memory manager (at said data node) includes monitoring means (at said data node) for receiving commands from other data nodes and said method selection means responds to the received commands.

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22 (New). A data node as recited in claim 21 wherein one of said cache memory management methods is a least recently used cache management method.

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23 (New). A data node as recited in claim 21 wherein one of said cache memory management methods is a data usage cache management method.

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24 (New). A data node as recited in claim 21 wherein one of said cache memory management methods is a store-through cache management method.

5 25 (New). A data node as recited in claim 21 wherein one of said cache memory management methods is a pre-fetch cache management method.

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10 26 (New). A data node as recited in claim 21 wherein one of said cache memory management methods is an indexing cache management method.

15 27 (New). A data node as recited in claim 21 wherein one of said cache memory management methods is a B-tree cache management method.

20 28 (New). A data node as recited in claim 21 wherein one of said cache memory management methods is a charging cache management method.

29 (New). A data node as recited in claim 18 wherein said cache memory manager includes means, response to messages received over the network, for selecting one of the cache memory

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~~management methods in said cache memory device for controlling the cache memory device and for performing communications with the network.~~

Sub Cpt 30 (New). A data node as recited in claim 18 wherein said cache memory device includes method storage for storing least recently used, data usage, store-through, pre-fetch, indexing, Btree and charge cache memory management methods as the at least two cache memory management methods.

10 31 (New). A data node as recited in claim 30 wherein said cache memory manager (at said data node) includes monitoring means (at said data node) for monitoring operations at said data node and said method selection means at said data node responds to said monitoring means.

15 32 (New). A data node as recited in claim 30 wherein said cache memory manager (at said data node) includes monitoring means (at said data node) for receiving commands from other nodes and method selection means at said data node for responding to the received commands by selecting one of the cache memory management methods in said cache memory device.